

business. I would not want to see it get down to two or three members transacting business for a seven-man commission. This simply specifies; it does not change the quorum requirement but simply indicates that it takes at least a simple majority of the commission members to officially transact business for that commission.

SENATOR SAVAGE PRESIDING

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Chairman, I stand to support this amendment. I think the intent was there that if the commission has four members of a seven-member commission, they should be able to do the normal every day to day business. If there are decisions to be made that take a vote, we want a majority of the commission to be making that decision. Therefore, I support the amendment.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body. I rise to oppose the amendment. I think it's going to cause a further backlog and so forth if you have to wait for another person to be there. Let me remind you that even with four members, a majority of that commission would have to be three. If only four members were there which is the smallest number there could come, any actions would have to be three and you are saying that there would have to be unanimous if only four people were there before you could take any action. That is going to cut down on their workload; it's going to drag things out. It's totally superfluous and unnecessary. I oppose this because there is no basic need. A majority will still be three; that is one less and we ought to have them do some work. You know how hard it is to get people to go to commission hearings and so forth, so I urge the body to reject this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Are there other lights, Mr. Chairman?

SENATOR SAVAGE: No other lights.

SENATOR MURPHY: Then I would simply close by saying it is customary in any commission and this commission has certain requirements for appointment that there is a disparity of people on that commission to transact that business properly and the only way that can be done is with a majority of those who have been appointed to that board. If they wish to transact business with four members present, then most certainly it will take a unanimous vote. I think it's fine that they are allowed to do so. I would be very much opposed to transacting business with less than a majority of the elected members. I don't know of any other commissions where we permit chat and certainly it should not be permitted here. I move the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR SAVAGE: The question is the adoption of Senator Murphy's amendment to 161. All those vote in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Savage voting aye.